

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 9-21 of the Remarks page, filed 07/27/2011, with respect to claims 32-35, 38-39, 41 and 43 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 32-35, 38-39, 41 and 43 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 32-35, 38-39, 41 and 43 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The cited prior art of record considered as a whole (either alone or in combination) fail to teach or suggest:

An information recording apparatus, comprising:

a recording device for recording record information onto an information recording medium, comprising a first recording layer and a second recording layer in which the record information can be recorded;

a first controlling device for controlling said recording device to record the record information alternately into said first recording layer and said second recording layer in an opposite track path manner and thereby to form a plurality of border areas, wherein the border area (i) is a recording unit by which the record information is alternately recorded and (ii) includes a first area portion in the first recording layer and a second area portion in the second recording layer whose radius position is substantially same as that of the first area portion, and wherein when the record information is recorded in each border area, the first controlling device controls said recording device (i) to firstly

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record the record information into the first area portion from an inner circumferential side of the information recording medium to an outer circumferential side of the information recording medium, then (ii) to perform a layer jump which changes a recording layer targeted for recording from the first recording layer to the second recording layer and then (iii) to record the record information into the second area portion from the outer circumferential side to the inner circumferential side;

a second controlling device for controlling said recording device to update-record anchor information, which is recorded in anchor area as being a start point in reading file system information for controlling at least one of recording and reproduction of the record information and which is referred to in reading the file system information, into a recording area in each of said first recording layer and said second recording layer, whose position is variable, other than the anchor area as the record information after a recording of the border area is finished, wherein the anchor area is prepared each of said first recording layer and said second recording layer;

a third controlling device for controlling said recording device to record four update block sector pointers, each of which indicates an address value of the recording area other than the anchor area in which the anchor information is update-recorded, wherein one of the four update block sector pointers indicates an address value of the most inner edge of the recording area into which the record information is lastly recorded and which is in the second recording layer;

a fourth controlling device for controlling said recording device to record four update block sector effective flags, each of which corresponds to respective one of the update

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block sector pointers and each of which indicates whether or not the anchor information is update-recorded into the recording area other than the anchor area; and a fifth controlling device for controlling said recording device to record the anchor information into a border-in area and a border-out area each of which is prepared on said second recording layer and each of which is a border management area to manage the border area, in closing the border area.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HENOK HEYI whose telephone number is (571)270-1816. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5 Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H. Feild can be reached on (571)272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/HENOK HEYI/
Examiner, Art Unit 2627

/Joseph H. Feild/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2627